

REMARKS**INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 3, 10 and 16 have been amended. No new matter has been submitted and reconsideration of the allowability of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-9 have been allowed and claims 3-4 and 10-18 has been indicated as including allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claim 3 has been amended into independent form and claims 10 and 16 have been amended to correct for a typographical error, thereby also placing claims 3-4 and 10-18 in allowable condition. Thus, claims 3-18 should be in allowable condition.

Claims 1-18 are pending and under consideration.

OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 10-18

Claims 10 and 16 have been amended to correct a typographical error. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 102

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Yoshida et al., JP61-254-960. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As noted above, independent claim 1 has been amended to include "the predetermined DC voltage having a polarity equal to an electrical polarity of a toner of the one of the fixed color development rollers supplied with the high developing voltage."

As detailed in the specification, by applying the same DC polarity to the rollers not being supplied with the high developing voltage as the electrical polarity of the toner of the roller being supplied with the high developing voltage, the toner deposited on an OPC does not move towards development rollers not supplied with the high developing voltage. In this manner, toner deposited on the OPC doesn't contaminate one of the development rollers not supplied with the high developing voltage.

Rather, Yoshida et al. would appear to be concerned with preventing toner in a non-selected developing unit from splashing onto the a developing drum from the non-selected developing unit. Thereby, contaminating the image on the drum.

Yoshida et al. would appear to be directed toward preventing contamination of the

developing drum, from toner leaving a non-selected developing roller to the developing drum, while aspects of the present invention are directed toward preventing contamination of the non-selected developing roller from toner leaving the developing drum and going to the non-selected developing roller. See paragraphs [0018]-[0019] of the present application for further explanation and example.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Yoshida et al. fails to disclose the presently claimed "predetermined DC voltage having a polarity equal to an electrical polarity of a toner of the one of the fixed color development rollers supplied with the high developing voltage."

In addition, regarding dependent claim 2, Yoshida et al. further specifies DC bias to be -400V and -200V, which implies that a separate independent DC bias is constructed and supplied. However, in embodiments of the present invention, DC bias is branched from the DC + AC developing high voltage, that is, by the voltage drop, the DC bias is supplied to the developing machine which is not in printing operation. Dependent claim 2 particularly claims that the "high developing voltage comprises a DC voltage and an AC voltage superimposed." Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Yoshida et al. fails to disclose the presently claimed invention of at least dependent claim 2.

In addition, for at least the above, it is respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to modify Yoshida et al. to include this deficient feature, as only the present application would provide motivation for the same.

Therefore, for at least the above, it is respectfully requested that this rejection of claims 1 and 2 be withdrawn and claims 1 and 2 be allowed.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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